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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko Raichev (Bulgaria), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.35

Public administration and development

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the important role that Governments and public administrations can play in addressing new responsibilities arising from the pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, including, inter alia, developing basic infrastructural facilities, promoting social development, combating socio-economic disparities and poverty, preparing, as appropriate, conditions for the private sector and protecting the environment,

Recognizing also the need for strengthened public administrative capacities in order to ensure a civil service that is responsive to the needs of the people and that provides quality services,

Affirming that States have the sovereign right and responsibility to decide, in accordance with their own development strategies, needs and priorities, on their public administration,

Considering that efficient and competent national administrations, responsible to their own people, should support sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Considering also that the development of human resources constitutes an essential basis for sustained economic growth and sustainable development and a principal factor of progress and welfare,

Considering further that some initiatives to reform their public administrations taken by certain countries in the context of structural adjustment programmes have not always been based on a policy conceived and defined for the long term,

Recognizing the important and mutually complementary roles that can be played by the public and private sectors in sustained economic growth and sustained development,

Recognizing also the importance of efficient and competent public administration, responsible to its own people, to the appropriate authorities within the national context for the successful implementation of economic reforms in all countries, in particular in the countries with economies in transition,

Emphasizing the importance of international cooperation in supporting the national efforts of developing countries in capacity-building in public administration for development,

Acknowledging the importance of the activities in the framework of the United Nations programme in public administration and finance for enhancing efficiency of public administration, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition,

Acknowledging also the importance of exchanging views and experiences in order to promote a better understanding of the role of public administration in development and to enhance international cooperation in this field,

1. Takes note of the Tangier Declaration, 1/ adopted by the Pan-African Conference of Ministers of the Civil Service held in Morocco on 20 and 21 June 1994;

2. Decides to resume in March-April 1996 its fiftieth session in order to examine the question "Public administration and development", exchange experiences, review the activities of the United Nations in this field and make recommendations, as appropriate;

3. Invites all States to participate actively in the resumed session and to be represented at the highest possible level;

4. Requests the Group of Experts on Public Administration and Finance to contribute, through the Economic and Social Council to the work of its resumed session based on the experience gained in assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition in capacity-building in public administration for development;

5. Also requests the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant United Nations organizations to contribute, through the Economic and Social Council, to the work of its resumed session;

1/ A/49/495, annex.

6. Invites interested non-governmental organizations to contribute, as appropriate, to the work of its resumed session;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a consolidated report, through the Economic and Social Council to the resumed session, containing an analysis of the role of public administration in development and recommendations for strengthening the role of the United Nations in public administration and development for the benefit of interested developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

8. Also invites the regional commissions of the United Nations to consider in 1995 the role of public administration in development and to report, through the Economic and Social Council, to the resumed session;

9. Decides to recommend to the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session, to include in the provisional agenda of its substantive session of 1995 a sub-item entitled "Public administration and development", under the item "Programme activities";

10. Also decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session a sub-item entitled "Public administration and development", under the item "Report of the Economic and Social Council".